

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

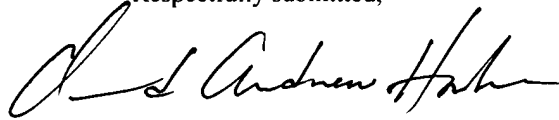
(1) In the Office Action the examiner has rejected claims 5-14 under 35 USC § 112. Paragraph [0008] of the specification has been amended in this response on page 2 to explain the operation of the speed sensor such that anyone skilled in the art can understand, replicate and make use of that component of the invention.

(2) With regard to Claims 1-3 being rejected by the examiner in reference to Wakasugi (5,842,432), the examiner has stated in the Office Action : **“Wakasugi discloses an electronic stitch regulator comprising a position sensor (7); a sensor arm (14) that is pivotally mounted in the base plate and is preloaded longitudinally with a spring element; a base plate (3); an electronic circuit; an electrical output connector (fig. 5).”** This patent by Wakasugi (5,842,432) has been reviewed thoroughly. Wakasugi does not disclose an electronic stitch length regulator. Rather, Wakasugi discloses a thread consumption device for several different sewing apparatuses. Furthermore, the nomenclature for this patent is as follows: (7) refers to the thread consumption detector, not a position sensor. (14) refers to a rectangularly-loop-shaped thread-contact end, not a sensor arm. The thread contact end (14) of 5,842,432 is pre-loaded torsionally by a torsion spring rather than longitudinally by a linear spring. Penultimately, (3) refers to a thread guide which is a piece of material with a hole in it for thread to pass through, not a base plate. Lastly, figure 5 of 5,842,432 does not show an electronic circuit, nor an electrical output connector. Rather, what is shown is a two-way arrow to a box surrounding the letters ‘CPU’.

Based on the thorough examination of Wakasugi (5,842,432), it is argued that the invention proposed here was not anticipated by Wakasugi in U.S. Patent 5,842,432.

(3) With regard to the examiner rejecting claims 1,3, and 4 under 35 USC § 103: Paragraph [0008] of the specification has been amended to better describe the sensor in the invention as a speed sensor rather than a position sensor. In the context of this invention, actual position of the sewing machine or the carriages of the quilting frame has no consequence to the operation of the invention presented here. This was an oversight by the inventor while writing the detailed description, however the proper context of the sensor was properly described in the Summary of the Invention, which remains unchanged.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Andrew Hooke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Hooke" being the most prominent parts.

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